

Appln. No. 10/613,404

Docket No. 304-811

Amendment

Reply to Office Action dated September 10, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 1. (Currently amended) A method for measuring the temperature of a ferromagnetic
2 saucepan for detecting and controlling the temperature of the saucepan, said ferromagnetic
3 saucepan being located near in the vicinity of a heater, said heater having a support made from
4 ferromagnetic metal, wherein an inductive sensor and a control means with evaluation electronics
5 are provided for controlling said heater and the temperature of said saucepan, in which: said
6 inductive sensor and said ferromagnetic saucepan form forming part of a resonant circuit, the
7 method comprising the steps of:

8 determining a parameter of said resonant circuit is determined on said inductive sensor as a
9 measured temperature value in time behaviour behavior with a curve[[],];
10 establishing and from a characteristic segment of said curve the temperature of said
11 saucepan is established;
12 using the absolute value of said measured temperature value is used at a specific point of
13 said characteristic segment as a desired value for control purposes[[],];
14 wherein measuring the temperature of said support is measured and using the temperature
15 is used for forming from it a correction value[[],]; and
16 said correction value is used for correcting said measured resonant circuit parameter using
17 said correction value.

1 2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein a frequency of said resonant
2 circuit is used as said resonant circuit parameter.

1 3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein a phase angle in said resonant
2 circuit is used as said resonant circuit parameter.

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1 5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein when said gradient changes,
2 said gradient becomes more shallow.

1 6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein a boiling point of water in the
2 saucepan is used as said temperature or said desired value.

1 7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein there is liquid in said saucepan,
2 and when all said liquid in said saucepan is evaporated, a further temperature rise is detected by a
3 second characteristic segment of said measured value curve.

1 8. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said correction values are
2 stored in conjunction with said temperature of said support, said time or a measured coupling in of
3 energy via said heater.

1 9. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said temperature measurement
2 and determination of said correction value take place repeatedly.

1 10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said temperature is measured
2 by a resistance measuring sensor.

1 11. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein from said temperature of said
2 support is calculated a frequency shift of said resonant circuit parameter.

1 12. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said inductive sensor is a coil.

1 13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein there is provided a saucepan
2 detection coil, and said saucepan detection coil is used as sensor.

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1 14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein said saucepan detection coil
2 has only one turn.

1 15 (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein in the case of an inductive
2 heater with an induction coil, said induction coil is used as sensor.

1 16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein said induction coil is provided
2 with an electrical contacting means in an area where said temperature measurement takes place,
3 and through said electrical contacting means there is a subdivision of said induction coil into at
4 least two areas, one part of said induction coil being used for temperature measurement purposes.

1 17. (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein in the case of a spiral
2 induction coil, an inner part of said coil is used for temperature measurement.

1 18. (Original) A method according to claim 17, wherein another part of said coil is
2 short-circuited, and an inner part of said coil is operated with an increased frequency as sensor.

1 19 (Currently amended) An electrical heating device with temperature measurement,
2 particularly for a hot plate of a cooking area for a metal saucepan, comprising:
3 with a heater for said saucepan, said heater being located on a ferromagnetic support[[.]];
4 with an inductive sensor and evaluation electronics for controlling said saucepan
5 temperature, wherein said inductive sensor, support and saucepan forming part of a resonant
6 circuit[[.]]; and
7 wherein a temperature sensor is provided for measuring a support temperature, and
8 wherein said evaluation electronics are constructed for:
9 detecting a resonant circuit parameter of said inductive sensor as a measured value in time
10 behavior behavior as a curve, and for determining said temperature from a characteristic segment
11 of said curve,
12 use of using an absolute value of said measured value at a specific point of the
13 characteristic segment of said curve as a desired value for a control,

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14 processing a temperature of said support to a correction value and
15 correcting said measured resonant circuit parameter with said correction value

1 20 (Original) Heating device according to claim 19, wherein said frequency is used as
2 said resonant circuit parameter.

1 21. (Original) Heating device according to claim 19, wherein said inductive sensor is a
2 saucepan detection coil for detecting a metal saucepan in the vicinity of said heater.

1 22. (Original) Heating device according to claim 19, wherein said heater is an
2 induction heater with an induction coil, and said induction coil is constructed as sensor.

1 23. (Original) Heating device according to claim 19, wherein said induction coil
2 has an electrical contacting means for subdividing said induction coil into at least a first part and a
3 second part, wherein part of said induction coil is constructed for temperature measurement
4 purposes

1 24. (Original) Heating device according to claim 23, wherein in the case of a spiral
2 induction coil, an inner part of said coil is constructed for temperature measurement and is
3 connectable to said evaluation electronics and another part of said coil is constructed for being
4 short-circuited.

1 25 (Original) Heating device according to claim 19, wherein said support is a
2 reception tray made from ferrromagnetic material, said heater being located in said reception tray.

1 26. (New) A method for measuring the temperature of a ferrromagnetic saucepan, the
2 ferrromagnetic saucepan being located near a heater, the heater having a support made from
3 ferrromagnetic metal, wherein an inductive sensor and a control means with evaluation electronics
4 are provided for controlling the heater and the temperature of the saucepan, in which the inductive

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5 sensor and the ferromagnetic saucepan form part of a resonant circuit, the method comprising the
6 steps of:

7 determining a parameter of the resonant circuit on the inductive sensor as a measured
8 temperature value in time behavior with a curve;

9 establishing from a characteristic segment of the curve the temperature of the saucepan;
10 using the absolute value of the measured temperature value at a specific point of the
11 characteristic segment as a desired value for control purposes;

12 measuring the temperature of the support and using the temperature for forming a
13 correction value; and

14 using the correction value for correcting the resonant circuit parameter,
15 wherein the temperature measurement and determination of the correction value take place
16 repeatedly.